undertake more effective action, the Central Government has implemented the reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme for reimbursement of 50% of the Security Related Expenditure incurred by them in tackling the problem of left wing extremism including the naxalites. An amount of Rs. 32.25 lakhs has been reimbursed to the Government of Chhattisgarh for expenditure incurred during year 2001-02. So far, the Central Government has reimbursed about Rs. 96.71 crores to the naxalite/ left wing extremism affected States.

Earthquake in pilgrimage places in Uttaranchal

†2148. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the warning given by Disaster Management and DMNC to the effect that "there is apprehension of disastrous earthquake in important pilgrimage centres of Uttaranchal such as Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamnotri; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme formulated by Government to deal with such disastrous natural calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre (DMNC) has not given any warning of a disastrous earthquake in important pilgrimage places of Uttaranchal.

It is not possible to predict an earthquake with reference to location, time and magnitude. However, areas/zones vulnerable to earthquakes have been clearly marked out and State Governments have been requested by the Central Government to take necessary preparatory measures in the earthquake vulnerable areas.

Wind atlas to map wind energy potential

2149. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is preparing a wind atlas to map the country's wind energy potential; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Under the Wind Resource Assessment Programme, 201 potential sites in 13 States/UTs have already been identified for wind power projects. The gross potential in the country has been estimated at about 45,000 MW. The present exploitable technical potential is about 13,000 MW.

The wind data collected under the programme so far will be utilized for preparation of a Wind Atlas for India by using state-of-art modelling techniques for a more precise estimation of the total wind power potential and identification of specific potential areas in different States.

Popularising the Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) system in Karnataka

2150. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been supporting the use of solar water heaters in Karnataka through a soft loan scheme implemented by several banks and the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency;

(b) if so, which are the banks implementing the above scheme in Karnataka;

(c) the total number of beneficiaries of the soft loan scheme in Karnataka so far during 2002-03; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to popularize Solar Photovoltaic systems in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A soft loan scheme for solar water heaters through IREDA and banks has been introduced in 1996. The banks currently implementing the scheme in Karnataka include Canara Bank, Union Bank of India, Syndicate Bank, Andhra Bank, Punjab National Bank, Punjab & Sind Bank and Bank of Maharashtra. The Canara Bank and the Union Bank of India operate the scheme only through a selected number of branches in the State of Karnataka while the other banks operate it through all their branches in the State.

(c) The amount of loans sanctioned by IREDA and banks and the approximate number of beneficiaries (considering an average of 4 sq.m.